

## Finding Dory



*Finding Dory* is the long awaited sequel to the beloved classic *Finding Nemo*. As we know from the land of poorly executed sequels, when the first one is so good, it is hard to live up to it. Not so with *Finding Dory*. I thought it was just as good if not better than the original because it goes a little deeper under the sea and into the ocean of loss, not just of memory

but of loved ones and the search for reunification. I thought of our foster kids, who like the little lost Dory spend time in search of or sometimes even forget their families and wind up on their own in search of something. Sometimes, they just can't remember what or where or who until bit by bit, little by little, memories return and a new search begins both inside the heart and out in the world.

*Finding Dory* is all about connection, reconnection and most of all hope. How many parents and children give up on finding each other again only to wander around seemingly aimlessly but needing to learn how to survive on their own without each other for love and support? How many children are like little Dory? Dory is simply adorable and from the first moment of the story you are on the hook to follow her as she navigates the unknown with her "impairment" and her hidden strengths which include problem solving making friends and helping others as she just keeps swimming along. And the audience is right next to her.

*Finding Dory* is a parable about persistence, determination and faith. As we get caught up in the underlying currents about growing up in what can be a scary and lonely world, knowing that even though we may be alone at the moment, sooner or later we will meet people who will become our friends and who we can join and share our lives with. The sheer joy of connecting and re-connecting with loved ones is truly what makes the journey worth-while. I loved *Finding Dory*.



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There is just something so existential about this experience. Like all Disney stories, there are battles to overcome, inner strength and talents to be uncovered mixed in with the losses and new discoveries. This is a story for young and old alike. It is sentimental and hits just the right emotional spots. I give *Finding Dory* 5 golden tickets.

